

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-05 OMB-01 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 MC-02 ERDA-07 ERDE-00 OES-05

IO-10 /123 W

----- 076877

O 281330Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8362

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NEW DELHI 5666

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDO-U.S. RELATIONS AND MRS. GANDHI ON  
FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES

BEGIN SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR KAUL IS REPORTED SAYING  
THAT FOR IMPROVING INDO-U.S. RELATIONS, NEW DELHI  
MAY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL "SOMEONE WHO THINKS DIFFERENTLY  
FROM DR. KISSINGER TAKES COMMAND." PRIME MINISTER  
GANDHI'S INTERVIEW TO THE NETHERLANDS TELEVISION  
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AND HER REPORTED STATEMENT THAT "WE HAVE NOT

CRITICIZED THE UNITED STATES" ALSO ARE GIVEN WIDE PRESS COVERAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE HINDU FRONT PAGE (APRIL 26) WASHINGTON-DATELINED DISPATCH FROM EASWAR SAGAR SAID AMBASSADOR KAUL "SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT MAY BE INDIA WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL SOMEONE WHO THINKS DIFFERENTLY FROM DR. KISSINGER TAKES COMMAND" SAGAR ALSO NOTED KAUL FEELS THAT "AS OF NOW INDO-U.S. RELATIONS ARE HEADING FOR A PERIOD OF PROLONGED COOLNESS" AND A CHANGE CAN COME "ONLY IF THE U.S. TAKES INDIA SERIOUSLY." HE MENTIONED THAT KAUL, RETURNING TO NEW DELHI ON MAY 17 FOR "CONSULTATIONS," IS ALSO "WONDERING WHETHER HE SHOULD CONTINUE AT HIS POST."

2. DELHI ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS APPEARING TODAY PROMINENTLY FEATURED MRS. GANDHI'S NETHERLANDS TELEVISION INTERVIEW. MOST HEADLINES STRESSED "INDIA NOT ALLOWING ANY FOREIGN BASES" (NATIONAL HERALD). THE LEFTIST PATRIOT FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE SAID: "HOSTILE PINDI POSTURES DUE TO U.S. ARMS." THE RIGHTIST MOTHERLAND RAN A SIMILAR HEADLINE: "BHUTTO MORE HOSTILE SINCE U.S. LIFTED ARMS EMBARGO."

3. IN HER DUTCH TV INTERVIEW MRS. GANDHI FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING FOREIGN POLICY THEMES:

NUCLEAR ENERGY: MRS. GANDHI TOLD THE DUTCH INTERVIEWERS THAT " IF WE FEEL THERE IS A NEED FOR FURTHER TESTING WE SHALL DO SO. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT OUR EXPERIMENT WAS IN CONTINUATION OF OUR POLICY OF USING NUCLEAR ENERGY OR ANY KNOWLEDGE THAT WE MAY HAVE FOR THE PURPOSES OF DEVELOPMENT." "IT WOULD NOT BE FAIR ON OUR SCIENTISTS NOT TO ALLOW THEM TO CARRY ON THEIR EXPERIMENTS, BUT WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE WANT SCIENCE TO BE USED FOR DEVELOPMENT AND NOT FOR DESTRUCTION." "I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT INDIA HAS NOT GOT ATOMIC BOMBS OR NUCLEAR WEAPONS. NOR DO WE INTEND TO MAKE ANY."

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RELATIONS WITH MAJOR POWERS: " WE ARE NOT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF EITHER ONE BLOC OR THE OTHER BLOC." "WE GET HELP FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. WE HAD HELP FROM THE USA. IN FACT, CREDIT-WISE, I WOULD SAY THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF CREDIT HAD COME FROM THE USA AND WE APPRECIATE IT. THE SOVIET UNION, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD HELPED US WITH OUR HEAVY MACHINE-BUILDING AND THAT SORT OF THING." IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION

ON THE U.S., SHE SAID," IT IS THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION  
ITSELF WHICH SPOKE OF TILT AGAINST INDIA AND SO ON.  
WE HAVE NEVER HAD ANY TILT. WE HAVE BELIVED IN CO-  
EXISTENCE, WE HAVE BELIEVED IN FRIENDSHIP REGARDLESS  
OF WHETHER WE AGREE WITH THE SYSTEM OR  
ANUTHING WHICH THE GOVERNMENT DOES. AND WE BELIVE  
THAT NOBODY SHOULD IMPOSE THEIR IDEOLOGY OR SYSTEM ON  
ANOTHER NATION. AND WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE RELATION-  
SHOP WITH AMERICA WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE." PAKISTAN  
HAS BEEN GETTING ARMS FREE BECAUSE OF ITS MILITARY  
ALLIANCES WITH THE U.S. AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS  
MILITARY BLOC... THE LIFTING OF THE MBARGO POSES  
CERTAIN DANGERS NOT MERELY BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT, ALTHOUGH  
THAT ALSO IS SIGNIFICANT... THE TIMING OF THE LIFTING  
OF THE EMBARGO WAS RATHER STRANGE TO US. IT WAS A TIME  
WHEN WE WERE IN THE MIDST OF TALKS WITH PAKISTAN AND  
WE WERE IN THE MIDST OF TALKS WITH THE U.S.A. AND  
BOTH THE TALKS WERE GOING AHEAD QUITE SATISFACTORILY  
AND THIS HAS BEEN A BIT OF A SET BACK. NOW, AS I SAID,  
THE DANGER IS NOT SO MUCH THE AMOUNT, BUT THE FACT THAT  
IT ENCOURAGES A CERTAIN ATTITUDE WITHIN PAKISTAN AND  
YOU MUST HAVE NOTICED THAT SINCE THE EMBARGO HAS BEEN  
LIFTED, MR. BHUTTO'S SPEECHES HAVE BECOME FAR MORE  
BELLICOSE AND THREATENING."

ARMS PURCHASES: " WE HAVE BOUGHT ARMS FROM DIFFERENT  
COUNTRIES. THERE IS NO PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIER ABOUT  
WHERE IT SHOULD BE BOUGHT. BUT WE DON'T WANT TO BE  
ENGAGED IN AN ARMS RACE WITH PAKISTAN."

CHINA: " RELATIONS ARE CERTAINLY NOT WORSE THAN THEY  
WERE. IN FACT I WOULD SAY THERE HAS BEEN SOME  
SLIGHT SOFTENING LAST MONTH AND WE HOPE THIS WILL  
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CONTINUE."

IRAN: " IT IS AN IMPORTANT COUNTRY. ON THE SUBCONTINENT  
ITSELF, I HOPE THEY WILL STAND FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION."  
RELATIONS "HAD IMPROVED... I THINK THAT THEY HAVE A  
BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR OWN PROBLEMS AND THE  
SITUATION."

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INDIAN OCEAN: PERMANENT BASES ARE MORE DANGEROUS THAN  
THEIR MOVEMENT. ... THE PRESENCE OF ONE FOREIGN POWER  
ALWAYS ATTRACTS ANOTHER AND THIS CAN LEAD TO TENSION  
AND CONFRONTATION. SO FAR AS INDIA IS CONCERNED,  
NOBODY HAS ASKED US FOR ANY BASES AND IT IS NOT OUR  
INTENTION TO GIVE ANY. IN FACT, EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT  
SORT OF THING."

PAKISTAN: "... WE HAD THE SIMLA CONFERENCE AND WE

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THOUGHT THERE THAT THE ERA OF CONFRONTATION AND WAR  
BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES WAS OVER. WE THOUGHT THAT

MR. BHUTTO WAS AGREEING WITH US THAT WE HAD MANY PROBLEMS IN COMMON AND THAT WE SHOULD DEVOTE OUR ENERGIES TO SOLVING THEM. BUT IT HAS NOT WORKED OUT THAT WAY. HOWEVER WE CONTINUED WITH OUR EFFORTS. WE HAVE RECENTLY HAD MEETINGS BETWEEN DELEGATIONS, SOME HERE AND SOME IN ISLAMABAD AND SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE AND WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS WILL CONTINUED IN THIS WAY. WE DON'T BELIEVE IT IS A GOOD THING TO HAVE WEAK NEIGHBOURS. IT IS NECESSARY THAT NEIGHBORS SHOULD BE STABLE." "THE RELATIONSHIP OR RATHER THE MOVE TOWARD FRIENDSHIP HAS HAD A SETBACK BY THEIR GETTING ARMS. IT IS NOT JUST THE AMOUNT OF ARMS, BUT HAVING ARMS ENCOURAGES THE MORE BELLICOSE AND AGGRESSIVE SECTIONS OF THE PEOPLE, AND THEREFORE, IT MAY LEAD TO CONFRONTATION."

4. IN SEPARATE COMMENT TO THE INDIAN PRESS APRIL 27 BEFORE SHE EMPLANED FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PM CONFERENCE IN JAMAICA, MRS. GANDHI IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT SHE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE ON PRESS REPORTS ABOUT INDIAN CRITICISM OF THE U.S. "WE HAVE NOT CRITICIZED THE U.S." SHE SAID. " AS FOR MR. FORD'S VISIT, WE HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY."

5. FOUR NEWSPAPERS RAN EDITORIALS ON INDO-U..S. RELATIONS. ENTITLED "NOT ALL THAT BAD," THE HINDUSTAN TIMES STRESSED "THERE IS NO REASON WHY INDIA AND THE U.S. SHOULD DRIFT APART, AND IT WOULD NOT BE IN INDIA'S INTEREST TO ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN." STATING THAT " IT WOULD BE CHURLISH TO DENY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IN SEVERAL AREAS,"PLEADED THAT "THE FORMULA SHOULD BE TO LOOK AHEAD AND NOT ALLOW PESSIMISM TO BREED PESSIMISM." IN A LEAD EDITORIAL, THE ECONOMIC TIMES URGED: " POLICIES CAN BE EXPLAINED FACE TO FACE AND PERSUASION BY REASONING ATTEMPTED WITHOUT THE BLOW-UP OF NEWSPAPER INTERVIEWS WHICH MELODRAMATICALLY SEEK TO SUM UP THE TOTALITY AND THE FUTILITY OF INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS." THE MOTHERLAND CONCLUDED: " IT IS RIDICULOUS FOR WASHINGTON TO THREATEN CANCELLATION OF PRESIDENT FORD'S

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PROPOSED VISIT TO INDIA... THE PEOPLE OF INDIA WOULD BE HAPPY IF HE FACES AMERICA'S MOMENT OF TRUTH BOLDLY AND IMAGINATIVELY." IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED, "SILENCE IS GOLDEN, THE STATESMAN URGED AMBASSADOR SAXBE TO PURSUE A POLICY OF QUIET DIPLOMACY AND SUGGESTED HE FOLLOW A COURSE OF "SUBTELTY OF EXPRESSION."SAXBE

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## Message Attributes

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